

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action dated May 19, 2004. Reexamination in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are currently pending in this application, with claim 1 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Priority

It is noted with appreciation that the Office Action has acknowledged receipt of the claim for priority and the certified document supporting that claim.

Drawings

It is further noted with appreciation that the Office Action has indicated that the drawings filed on September 10, 2001 are acceptable.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103

These rejections are traversed at least for the following reasons.

Appreciation is expressed for the indication that claim 13 contains allowable subject matter. While not conceding the propriety of these rejections, and in order to further the prosecution of the application, the features of claim 13 have been wholly incorporated into claim 1 to place claim 13 into independent form. Thus, prior claim 13 is now amended claim 1.

Withdrawal of these rejections and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

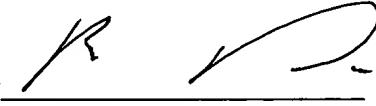
For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753 or the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Dated: July 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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